

REMARKS

The present preliminary amendment is being submitted concurrently with a Continued Prosecution Application Request.

Prior to the present amendment, Claims 15, 16, 22, 23, 44, 57 to 59, and 63 to 65 were pending. With the present amendment: (A) Claim 23 has been cancelled; (B) Claims 16 and 44 have been amended to be placed in independent form, incorporating the recitations of the claims from which they were previously dependent; (C) Claim 15 has been amended to recite that the ribozyme cleaves mRNA encoding LIPG (support for this is found in the application at pages 47 to 51); (D) Claims 98 & 100 to 102 have been added (these claims mirror and derive support from originally filed Claims 18, 31, 37, and 38, respectively); (E) previously cancelled Claims 17 and 60 to 62 have been reinstated as Claims 99 and 103 to 105, respectively; and (F) an amendment to correct a clerical error has been made to the descriptive portion of the application. No new matter has been added. The claims pending presently are Claims 15, 16, 22, 44, 57 to 59, 63 to 65, and 98 to 105.

Art Unit 1652

Application No. 09/277,401

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An early and favorable Action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Gene J. Yao, Esquire

Reg. No. 47,193

Attorney for Applicants

Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP
Suite 2600 Aramark Tower
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950
(215) 923-4466